PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2002 Regular or Special Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE ENROLLED ACT No. 1171

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning motor vehicles.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 9-25-7-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003]: Sec. 1. The bureau may not revoke the driving license or registration plates of the owner or operator of a motor vehicle who has been involved in a motor vehicle accident resulting in bodily injury or death or in damage to property in excess of seven hundred fifty one thousand dollars (\$750) (\$1,000) solely because of failure to provide evidence of financial responsibility whenever the:

- (1) owner or operator was insured by an insurance company for public liability and property damage at the time of the accident; and
- (2) insurance company becomes insolvent after the accident or within fifteen (15) days before the accident;

if the insurance company was authorized and qualified to do business in Indiana on the effective date of the policy.

SECTION 2. IC 9-25-8-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003]: Sec. 2. (a) A person who **knowingly**:

- (1) operates; or
- (2) permits the operation of;

a motor vehicle on a public highway in Indiana commits a Class A infraction unless financial responsibility is in effect with respect to the motor vehicle under IC 9-25-4-4. However, the offense is a Class C misdemeanor if the person knowingly or intentionally violates this

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section and has a prior unrelated conviction or judgment under this section.

- (b) Subsection (a)(2) applies to:
 - (1) the owner of a rental company that is referred to in IC 9-25-6-3(e)(1); and
 - (2) an employer that is referred to in IC 9-25-6-3(e)(2).
- (c) In addition to any other penalty imposed on a person for violating this section, the court may recommend the suspension of the person's driving privileges for one (1) year. However, if, within the five (5) years preceding the conviction under this section, the person had a prior unrelated conviction under this section, the court shall recommend the suspension of the person's driving privileges for one (1) year.
- (d) Upon receiving the recommendation of the court under subsection (c), the bureau shall suspend the person's driving privileges for the period recommended by the court.

SECTION 3. IC 9-26-1-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003]: Sec. 2. The driver of a vehicle involved in an accident that does not result in injury or death of a person but that does result in damage to a vehicle that is driven or attended by a person shall do the following:

- (1) Immediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the accident or as close to the accident as possible in a manner that does not obstruct traffic more than is necessary.
- (2) Immediately return to and remain at the scene of the accident until the driver does the following:
 - (A) Gives the driver's name and address and the registration number of the vehicle the driver was driving.
 - (B) Upon request, exhibits the driver's license of the driver to the driver or occupant of or person attending each vehicle involved in the accident.
- (3) If the accident results in total property damage to an apparent extent of at least seven hundred fifty one thousand dollars (\$750), (\$1,000), forward a written report of the accident to the state police department within ten (10) days after the accident.

SECTION 4. IC 9-26-2-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003]: Sec. 1. A law enforcement officer shall investigate each motor vehicle accident that results in any of the following:

- (2) Total property damage to an apparent extent of at least seven hundred fifty one thousand dollars (\$750). (\$1,000).

SECTION 5. IC 9-26-2-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003]: Sec. 4. (a) A law enforcement officer shall enforce IC 9-21 and IC 9-25 against the parties to a motor vehicle accident on private property if the accident:

- (1) occurs on commercial or other private property that is open to the public; and
- (2) results in:
 - (A) personal injury or death; or
 - (B) property damage to an apparent extent greater than seven hundred fifty one thousand dollars (\$750). (\$1,000).
- (b) This section does not affect the power of a local government unit to contract with the owner or lessee of a shopping center or private business property under IC 9-21-18-4.

SECTION 6. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003] IC 9-25-8-2, as amended by this act, applies only to offenses committed after June 30, 2003.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives	
President of the Senate	C
President Pro Tempore	
Approved:	p
Governor of the State of Indiana	

